

CLAIMS:**1. An e-book system comprising:**

a searcher that is configured to locate segments of a plurality of publications based on a user profile,

a compiler, operably coupled to the searcher, that is configured to create an e-book from the segments.

2. The e-book system of claim 1, further including:

a manager that is configured to create the user profile, based on interactions with a user.

3. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein

the system is further configured to notify a user of the e-book that is created by the compiler.

4. The e-book system of claim 3, wherein

the system is further configured to effect a transfer of the e-book to the user.

5. The e-book system of claim 4, wherein

the transfer is effected in exchange for payment by the user.

6. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein

the system is configured to modify the user profile based on subsequent activities of a user.

7. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein

the system is further configured to modify the e-book, based on selections by a user.

8. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein

the searcher is configured to search Internet sites to locate the segments.

9. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein
the compiler is configured to format the e-book based on preferences of a user.
10. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein
the user profile corresponds to a profile of a generic user.
11. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein
the searcher is further configured to locate the segments of publications based on
a hierarchy of user profiles.
12. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein
the user profile includes at least one of:
 - a topic of interest,
 - a keyword,
 - an author, and
 - a publisher.
13. The e-book system of claim 11, wherein
the user profile further includes at least one of:
 - a maximum segment length,
 - a maximum complexity level, and
 - a maximum text-to-figure ratio.
14. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein
the user profile includes an identification of segments that are already possessed
by a user.
15. The e-book system of claim 1, wherein
the compiler is further configured to filter the segments to provide select segments
corresponding to the user profile in the e-book.

16. A method of creating an e-book comprising:
searching among a plurality of publications for segments corresponding to a user profile,
compiling some or all of the segments to create the e-book.
17. The method of claim 16, further including
creating the user profile based on interactions with a user.
18. The method of claim 16, further including
creating the user profile based on determined preferences of a class of users.
19. The method of claim 16, further including
offering the e-book for sale.
20. The method of claim 16, further including
modifying the e-book, based on interactions with a user.
21. The method of claim 16, further including
modifying the user profile, based on activities of one or more users.